

**Middletown Public Schools**

**Middletown, Rhode Island**

**Thursday, April 10, 2014**

**Michael S. Pinto Conference Room**

**Members Present:**

**Kellie DiPalma Simeone, Vice-Chairman**

**Liana Fenton**

**Paul Mankofsky**

**William O'Connell**

**Member Absent:**

**Theresa Spengler, Chairman**

**Also Present:**

**Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Superintendent of Schools**

**Linda Savastano, Assistant Superintendent**

**Raquel Pellerin, Business Manager**

**Edward Collins, Director of Facilities**

**Shawn Brown, Town Administrator**

**The School Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. All School Committee members were present, with the exception of Mrs. Spengler. Administrative staff members present were Michael Mancieri, Donna Chelf, and Stephen Ponte.**

## **PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS**

**There were no “Proclamations/Awards” for April 10, 2014.**

## **SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING AND LEARNING**

### **“Green Team”**

**Gaudet School teacher Rick Taylor and a group of his 7th grade students in Cluster I discussed the Gaudet Ecological Restoration Project. The project started in 2001. Over 3,000 native plants have been planted. This project was originally started to eliminate the phragmite population on the Gaudet campus. Science classes can use this as an outdoor classroom. The Science Olympiad would use this as a training area.**

**A grant has been received from the Alice P. Meyer trust and Chaves Gardens has donated plants for this project.**

**The next steps are to continue to expand out a few feet every year on both sides of the driveway. Signs will be put up so people will know what it is. DEM approval would be needed to go further. Mrs. Kraeger suggested presenting this to the Town Council.**

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## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

**•PUSH Kick Butts Day – (Peer Union for Safety and Health) Lori Verderosa, Coordinator, Middletown Prevention Coalition, and students from Middletown High School participated in an event at Kennedy Plaza that addressed the dangers of cigarette usage. The PUSH Youth Committee is a subcommittee of the Middletown Prevention Coalition. Dr. Stewart Gitlow will be in attendance at a meeting on May 22nd at Town Hall to discussion addiction.**

## **INFORMATION**

**Mrs. Kraeger noted the following items of information:**

- RIASC Annual Meeting**
- Letter regarding April “Month of the Military Child”**

## •MHS Humanities Newsletter

### CORRESPONDENCE

No “Correspondence” for April 10, 2014.

### CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION:** 1)Liana Fenton, 2) Paul Mankofsky. To approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous vote.

- Approval of Minutes of March 5, 2014 Budget Workshop
- Approval of Minutes of March 20, 2014 Budget Workshop and School Committee Meeting
- Approval of the following vouchers:

#### March Vouchers

**Voucher Number Date Total**

1320	3/3/2014	\$20,436.75
1319	3/3/2014	\$339,282.29
1316	3/5/2014	\$223.00
1318	3/7/2014	\$9,194.50
1321	3/10/2014	\$52,611.41
1328	3/11/2014	\$66,986.08

1327	3/11/2014	\$311.52
1326	3/11/2014	\$464.00
1325	3/11/2014	\$135.00
1324	3/11/2014	\$211,523.46
1323	3/11/2014	\$5,020.00
1322	3/11/2014	\$2,040.00
1330	3/12/2014	\$660.00
1329	3/12/2014	\$671.30
1331	3/13/2014	\$106,803.86
1332	3/14/2014	\$2,075.37
1344	3/17/2014	\$651.02
1345	3/19/2014	\$217,836.35
1343	3/19/2014	\$78.71
1342	3/19/2014	\$1,469.02
1341	3/19/2014	\$958.96
1346	3/21/2014	\$1,169.22
1348	3/27/2014	\$48,805.68
Total		\$1,089,407.50

- Approval of Superintendent's Recommendation on Personnel

**APPOINTMENT AS OF APRIL 21, 2014**

**Victor Peabody April Vacation Camp Counselor**

**SPRING COACHING APPOINTMENTS EFFECTIVE MARCH 17, 2014**

**William Waterman Girls' Varsity Lacrosse**

**RESIGNATION EFFECTIVE JANUARY 23, 2014**

**Amy Rivera Bus Monitor**

**RESIGNATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF RETIREMENT EFFECTIVE  
APRIL 14, 2014**

**Edward J. McGreavy Social Studies, Middletown High School**

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY**

**EXTENSION OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Meredith Frederick Art, Middletown High School**

**For the remainder of the 2014-2015 School Year.**

**Beverlee Lavalley Teacher Assistant, J.H. Gaudet School**

**From March 31, 2014 for 6 weeks.**

**Nancy Ashmore Speech/Language Pathologist**

**From January 23, 2014 to May 30, 2014**

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **EBCAP JOB DESCRIPTION**

**MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) William O'Connell. That the School Committee approve the EBCAP Job Description. Unanimous vote.**

### **CONTRACT CONTINUATION**

**MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Paul Mankofsky. That the School Committee approve the Contract Continuation Resolution and forward to all cities and towns in Rhode Island requesting support. Unanimous vote.**

**For the past three years, there has been legislation in the House and Senate.**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**•PRE-K PROGRAM – There has been discussion regarding housing a Pre-K program at J.F. Kennedy School. Newport is looking into housing 3 Pre-K classes, Head Start would house 2 classes, and NCRSEP would house 3 classes. There is also interest from the**

**Newport County Mental Health Center. The program at Aquidneck School would be relocated to J.F. Kennedy School.**

**•PROJECT LEAD THE WAY – Mrs. Savastano will continue to meet on this program. The high school and middle school have been registered. There is a teacher that is committed to this program at the high school level. One course per year will be implemented. The first course will be “Introduction to Engineering Design”. This course involves math, science and engineering. The next year, “Principals of Engineering” would be implemented.**

**•SCHOOL BASED COORDINATOR – The field of candidates has been narrowed down to three candidates. Second interviews will be held this Friday and Saturday. The position will be filled soon. Funding for this is through the Perkins Grant. Newport and Middletown have not used their Perkins Grant funds.**

**•SHARED SERVICES – Middletown’s agreement with Newport will be finalized soon.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**•DISTRICT ART SHOW – Mrs. Kraeger has met with two members of the Fine Arts Department regarding the District Art Show. The show was initially going to be held at Town Hall, but will now be held at the**



**Elks Club from May 13th to May 16th. Artwork will also be displayed at Town Hall, Middletown Library and Sweet Berry Farm from May 5th to May 9th. Flats will be set up at Town Hall to permanently display artwork, which will change by the month.**

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## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS**

**•CURRICULUM – Mrs. Savastano reported that the ELA curriculum will soon go before the School Committee for approval. Work continues with the math curriculum. The NECAP Analysis has been distributed to the School Committee members. Specific populations need to be targeted. PARCC field testing ends tomorrow.**

**•FINANCIAL – A meeting will be held with the Town Council on April 28th.**

**•FACILITIES – The Facilities Department is preparing the fields for spring sports. Flex shifts have been implemented. The department is continually looking at ways to reduce costs.**

**MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) William O'Connell. That the School Committee receive the Superintendent's Reports. Unanimous vote.**

## **REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

- Mrs. Simeone and Mrs. Fenton attended a STEM Conference at the Pell Center. Advanced manufacturing was discussed. A STEM Conference will be held at RIC on May 30th. A regional and State council will be formed encompassing business, government, and education.
- Mr. O'Connell attended the Annual NSBA Conference in New Orleans.

## **ADJOURN FROM MEETING**

**MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) William O'Connell. To adjourn from the School Committee Meeting at 8:41 p.m. Unanimous vote.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Clerk**